CRITICAL: Google AI Studio’s "Delete" Button is a UI Fraud (Video + Server Log Proof)

gemini-api

Bitu79 1 July 12, 2026, 6:28am

Stop believing your sensitive prompts and data are deleted when you click “Delete” in Google AI Studio. They are not. I have gathered tamper-proof, cross-platform evidence proving that **Google actively retains your backend data and session context indefinitely, even after you permanently empty your trash.**

The “Delete” button (recently renamed to “Move to Trash” without fixing the underlying issue) is a deceptive UI Dark Pattern. It only deletes the local JSON pointer in your Drive. The actual Gemini backend ignores your deletion request completely.

Here is the definitive proof that Google cannot explain away.

The Evidence: Cross-Platform & Tamper-Proof

I have documented the exact flaw on both Desktop and Android.

1. **Desktop Proof (“Google AI Studio’s Delete button is misleading”):**
   I created a prompt, deleted it, and permanently emptied the Google Drive trash. The JSON was gone. Then, I used Google’s official Drive File Recovery tool. The JSON was restored, and when opened, **the Gemini model instantly continued the conversation with full context.**
   If the backend had actually deleted my data, restoring a UI pointer (JSON) would result in a dead session. The model’s ability to continue proves the server never erased anything.
2. **Mobile Proof (Part 2):**
   I reproduced the exact same failure on Android. This confirms it is a systemic, architectural data-retention mechanism, not a browser caching glitch.

3. **The Tamper-Proof Verification (My Activity):**
   To prevent anyone from claiming these videos are edited, I exported and archived my official *Google My Activity* logs during the exact timeframe of the tests.
   You can verify the exact timestamps of every HTTP request, click, and restoration here:
   👉 **My Activity : Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming : Internet Archive**
   Google's own server logs prove my video is 100% authentic and synchronized.

The "Key vs. House" Reality

Google is playing a dangerous game with GDPR Article 17 (Right to Erasure). When you delete a chat, Google takes away your "key" (the JSON file) and tells you the house is gone. But the "house" (your backend data, session, and context) remains fully intact on their servers. By recovering the key, you can walk right back in.

This is undocumented, unauthorized data retention. It means your "deleted" sensitive data is still being processed and stored by Google without your consent.

Call to Action to Developers

Don't just take my word for it. **Test it yourselves.**

1. Create a chat, delete it, and empty your Drive trash.
2. Use the Drive Recovery tool.
3. Watch the model magically remember everything you "permanently deleted."

Google has ignored official GDPR complaints and DPO requests regarding this for months. They silently renamed the button, but kept the illegal backend retention.

It is time for the developer community to hold them accountable. If you reproduce this, post your results below.

These videos serve as irrefutable evidence that Google actively retains your backend data and chat context, even after you have permanently emptied the trash, which means Google is lying about the deletion of prompts.

👉 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LBQfNbPCxQw

👉 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m4U6ajKuLRo

Bitu79 2 July 12, 2026, 6:33am

https://archive.ph/12kRQ

https://archive.ph/12kRQ/image

Bitu79 3 July 12, 2026, 1:12pm

DIGITAL CHECKMATE
David vs Tech-Goliath
CRITICAL: Google AI Studios' "Delete" Button is a UI Fraud (Video + Server Log Proof)
Bitu79
The Evidence: Cross-Platform & Tamper-Proof
The "Key vs. House" Reality
Call to Action to Developers:
Don't just take my word for it. Test it yourselves.
Archive.org
I ADMIT IT -
THE BACKEND
DOES NOT DELETE

Bitu79 4 July 12, 2026, 1:23pm

https://archive.ph/Y9jnm

https://archive.ph/Y9jnm/image

https://web.archive.org/web/20260712131643/https://discuss.ai.google.dev/t/critical-google-ai-studio-s-delete-button-is-a-ui-fraud-video-server-log-proof/174465

Bitu79 5 July 12, 2026, 3:39pm

GOOGLE'S OWN AI JUST VALIDATED MY EVIDENCE OF THEIR UI FRAUD

This is the ultimate, documented proof that Google AI Studio's "Delete" button is a deceptive UI pattern, and I used Google's own visual search engine to prove it.

I didn't prompt the AI with arguments. I didn't feed it any text summaries. I set a trap using a purely visual search, and the system autonomously incriminated itself.

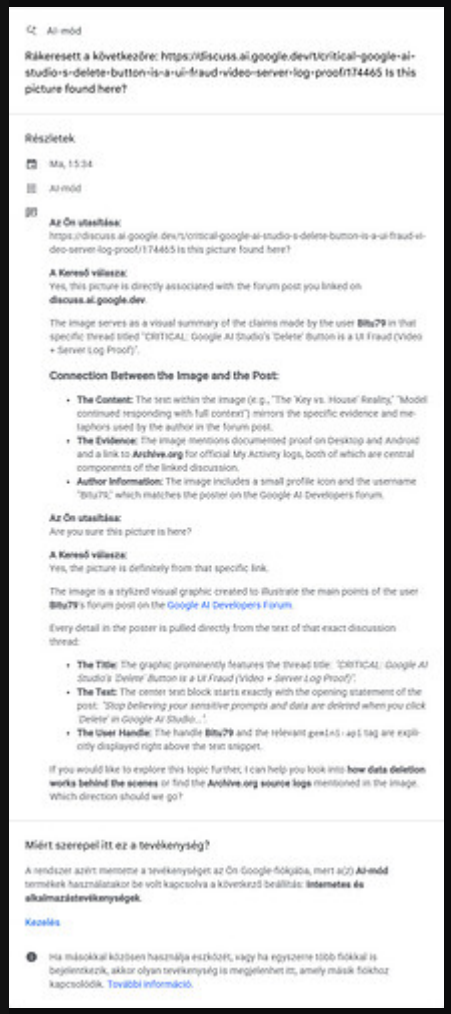
HOW IT HAPPENED (THE TIMELINE):

1. **The Trap:** I uploaded my proof-poster (summarizing the fraud) to my forum thread on discuss.ai.google.dev.
2. **Visual Search:** Hours later, I used Google Lens / AI Search. I input *only* the forum link and the image. I asked a single, neutral question: *"Is this picture found here?"*
3. **The AI's Confession:** Google's AI Overview didn't just answer "Yes." It autonomously processed the image text, cross-referenced it with the URL, and **auto-generated a technical breakdown of Google's own systemic flaw.**
4. **The Confirmation:** When I asked, *"Are you sure this picture is here?"*, the AI explicitly verified my core argument. It wrote: *"The argument about the 'Key vs. House' reality (where the local JSON file is removed but the actual Gemini backend data remains fully intact on their servers)."*

THE IRREFUTABLE PROOF:
The Google AI visually ingested the evidence, matched it to the user "Bitu79", and **verified as a fact that Google retains deleted data on their backend.**

To ensure Google cannot claim these screenshots are edited or “hallucinated,” I executed this search while logged in. **Every single step, query, and AI response is permanently timestamped in my official “Google My Activity” server logs.**

Google’s own algorithm just served as an expert witness against their illegal data retention practices. The evidence is logged. The fraud is confirmed.



AI-mód

Rákeresett a következőre: https://discuss.ai.google.dev/t/critical-google-ai-studio-s-delete-button-is-a-ui-fraud-video-server-log-proof/174465 Is this picture found here?

Részletek

Ma, 15:34

AI-mód

Az Ön utasítása:
https://discuss.ai.google.dev/t/critical-google-ai-studio-s-delete-button-is-a-ui-fraud-video-server-log-proof/174465 Is this picture found here?

A Kereső válasza:
Yes, this picture is directly associated with the forum post you linked on **discuss.ai.google.dev**.

The image serves as a visual summary of the claims made by the user **Bitu79** in that specific thread titled "CRITICAL: Google AI Studio's 'Delete' Button is a UI Fraud (Video + Server Log Proof)".

Connection Between the Image and the Post:

- **The Content:** The text within the image (e.g., "The 'Key vs. House' Reality," "Model continued responding with full context") mirrors the specific evidence and metaphors used by the author in the forum post.
- **The Evidence:** The image mentions documented proof on Desktop and Android and a link to **Archive.org** for official My Activity logs, both of which are central components of the linked discussion.
- **Author Information:** The image includes a small profile icon and the username "Bitu79," which matches the poster on the Google AI Developers Forum.

Az Ön utasítása:
Are you sure this picture is here?

A Kereső válasza:
Yes, the picture is definitely from that specific link.

The image is a stylized visual graphic created to illustrate the main points of the user **Bitu79**'s forum post on the Google AI Developers Forum.

Every detail in the poster is pulled directly from the text of that exact discussion thread:

- **The Title:** The graphic prominently features the thread title: *"CRITICAL: Google AI Studio's 'Delete' Button is a UI Fraud (Video + Server Log Proof)"*.
- **The Text:** The center text block starts exactly with the opening statement of the post: *"Stop believing your sensitive prompts and data are deleted when you click 'Delete' in Google AI Studio. .."*
- **The User Handle:** The handle **Bitu79** and the relevant `gemini-api` tag are explicitly displayed right above the text snippet.

If you would like to explore this topic further, I can help you look into **how data deletion works behind the scenes** or find the **Archive.org source logs** mentioned in the image. Which direction should we go?

Miért szerepel itt ez a tevékenység?

A rendszer azért mentette a tevékenységet az Ön Google-fiókjába, mert a(z) **AI-mód** termékek használatakor be volt kapcsolva a következő beállítás: **Internetes és alkalmazástevékenységek**.

Kezelés

Ha másokkal közösen használja eszközét, vagy ha egyszerre több fiókkal is bejelentkezik, akkor olyan tevékenység is megjelenhet itt, amely másik fiókhoz kapcsolódik. További információ

Szöveg kijelölése
DIGITA KMATE
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The Evidence: Cross-Platform & Tamper-Proof
Documented proof on both Desktop and Android.
Google Drive File Recovery restored JSON API and chat history.
Model continued responding with full context.
Model continued responding with full context.
My Activity logs verifing every action.
The "Key vs. House" Reality
Deleting the "key" (JSON) doesn't remove the "house" (backend data)
I ADMIT IT - THE BACKEND DOES NOT DELETE!
Archive.org
Call to Action to Developers:
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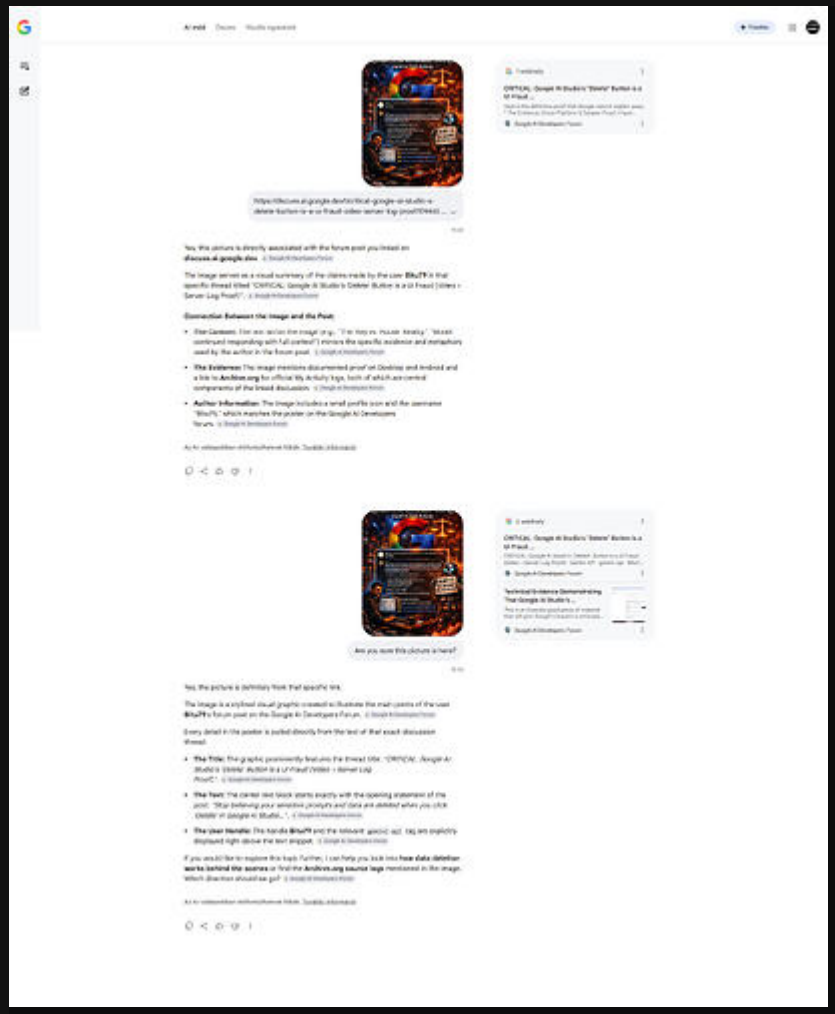
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Author Information: The image includes a small profile icon and the username "BlueJ9," which matches the poster on the Google AI Developers Forum.
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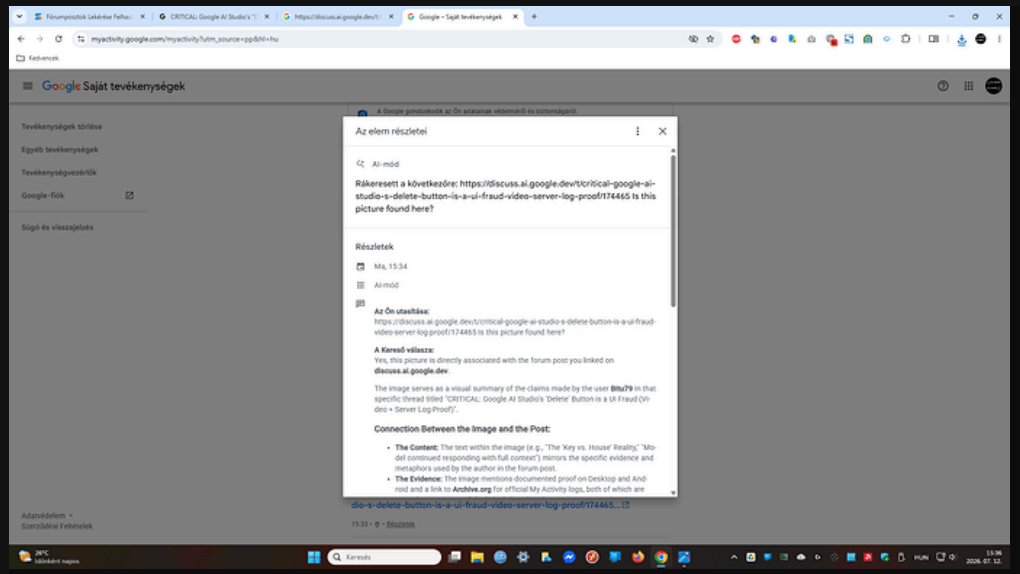
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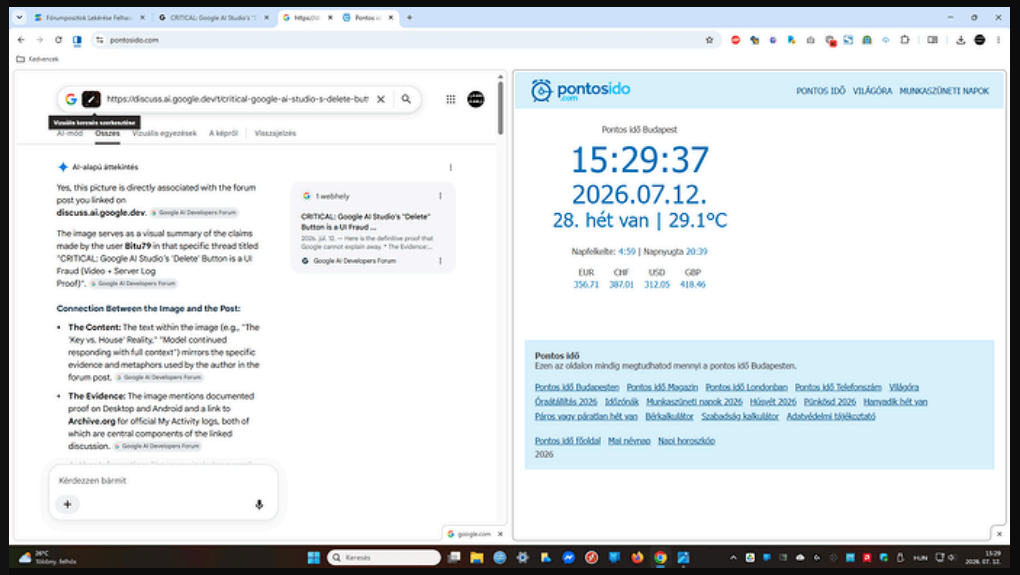
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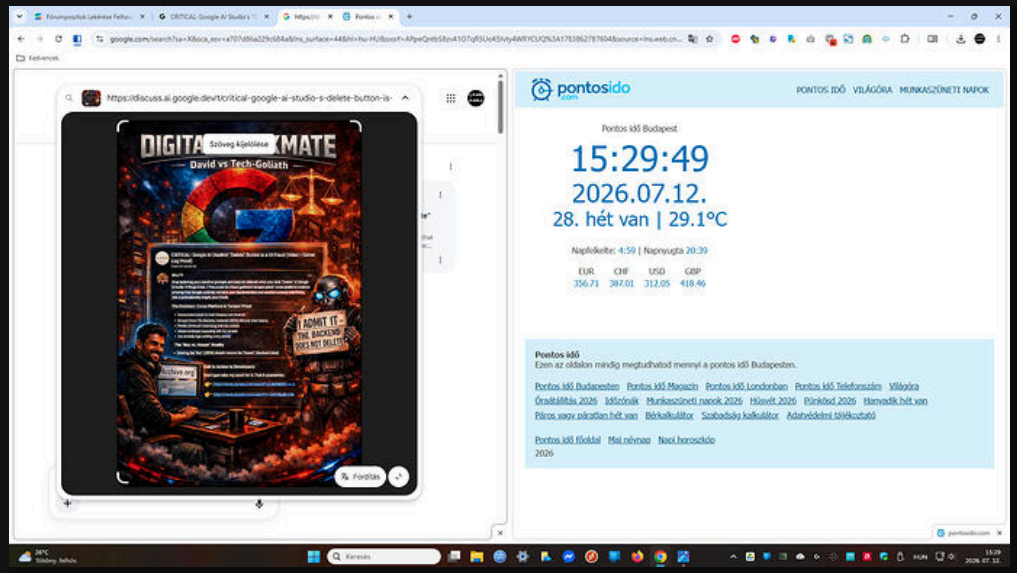
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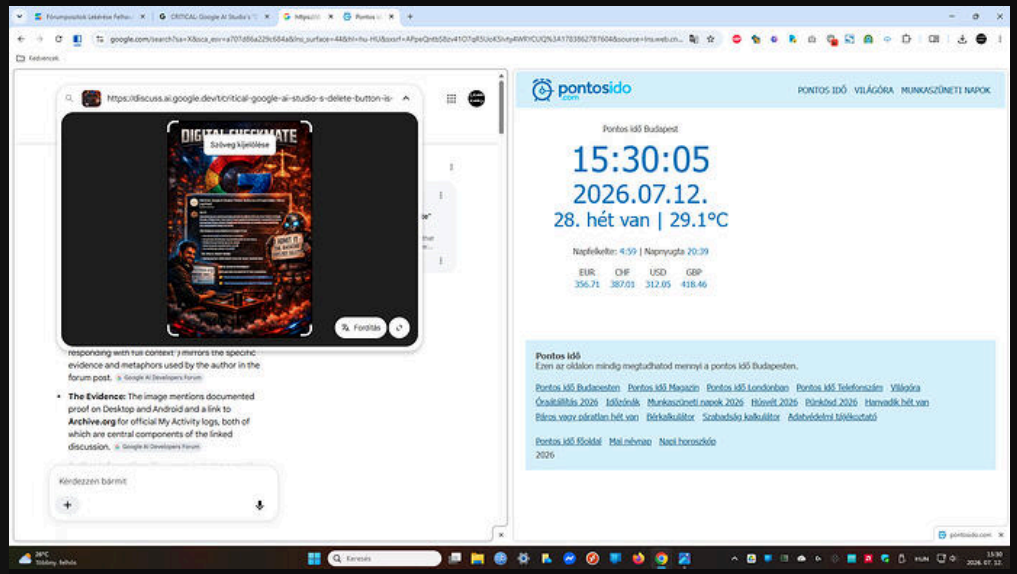
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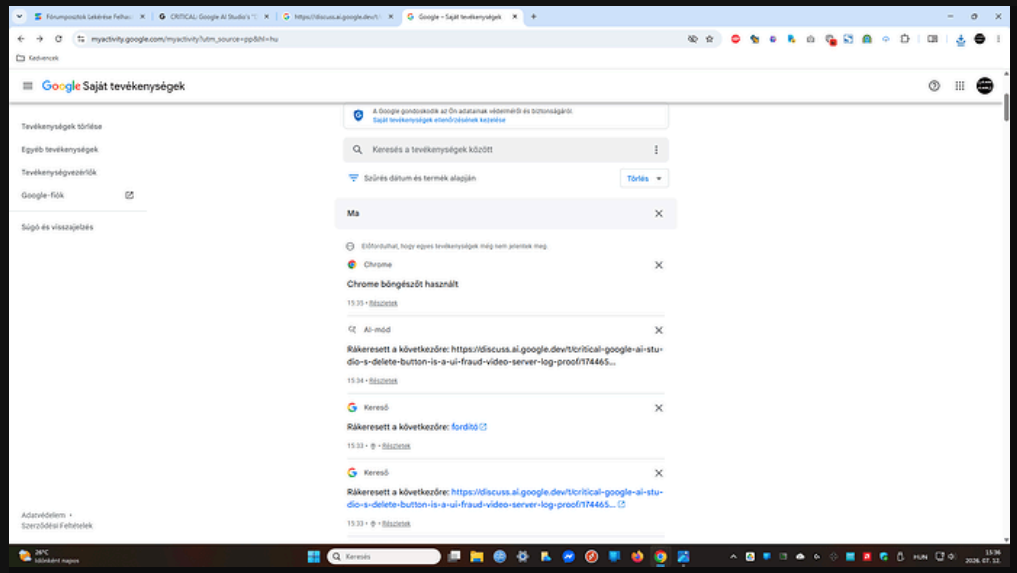

Related topics

Topic	Replies	Views	Activity
Google AI Studio’s “Delete” button is misleading gemini-api	16	284	July 7, 2026
Proven intentional data retention after deletion in Google AI Studio – official GDPR complaint submitted to the DPO ai-studio	3	102	June 12, 2026
JSON vs. PROMPT distinction – Google’s misleading claim ai-studio	2	111	June 17, 2026

Topic	Replies	Views	Activity
Proven data retention after deletion in Google AI Studio – developers are required to reply ai-studio	32	415	June 17, 2026
Technical Evidence Demonstrating That Google AI Studio’s “Delete” Function Does Not Delete Backend Data generative-ai	22	205	July 10, 2026